# New Castle Crier



## The official newsletter of New Castle City

Vol. 7, Iss. 3 ♥ New Castle, DE ♥ March 2013

#### New Castle City Election on Saturday, April 13

Polling for the City Election is at the New Castle Senior Center, 400 South Street, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Elections are for Mayor (2-year term), Council President (4-year term), four Council seats (two 2-year terms, two 4-year terms), City Treasurer and City Clerk (each 4-year terms).

Absentee ballot applications may be applied for at the City office, 220 Delaware St., weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. through the deadline of noon on Friday, April 12. Added special hours for persons to apply for absentee ballots are also set for Saturday, April 6 from 9 a.m. to noon and Monday, April 8 from 7 to 9 p.m.



New voters can register to vote at the City office weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Special registration hours are also set for Thurs., March 21 from 4:30 to 7 p.m. and Sat., March 23 from 9 a.m. to noon.

For more information, select the "Election Information" button on the front page of the City Web site: NewCastleCity.Delaware.gov.

#### Trustees Scholarship

Once again, the Trustees of the New Castle Common are offering scholarships to students entering or attending college full time who are residents of the City of New Castle. Based upon academic success and financial need, the grants are awarded for one year, payable each semester.

Applications must be received on or before April 15. For applications, contact the Trustees of the New Castle Common, P. O. Box 453, New Castle, DE 19720-0453, or at the Trustees' office in the Old Town Hall.

### March & April Events

Wednesday, March 13 at 7 p.m. at the New Castle Court House Museum

## **○ Annual Meeting C**of the New Castle Historical Society

Following a brief business meeting, we will enjoy a program with Dr. Patrick McGovern, a biomolecular archaeologist at the University of Pennsylvania, who has worked with Dogfish Head Craft Brewery to create their line of Ancient Ales. Dr. Pat will present his program: Uncorking The Past: The Quest for Wine, Beer & Extreme Fermented Beverages

The entire event is free and open to the public.

Wednesday, April 3 at 10 a.m.
NCHS Museums: Amstel House & Dutch House

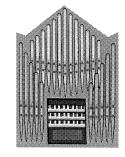
## Museums Open for the Season C New Castle Historical Society

Beginning on April 3, the Amstel House and Dutch House museums open for the season offering public tours, Wednesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. Tickets for tours may be purchased at the Amstel House Museum, 2 East 4th Street in downtown historic New Castle. For more information on either of the above items go to: www.NewCastleHistory.org

Saturday, April 6 in the Gymnasium at St. Peter The Apostle Church

#### Save Our Pipe Organ C Silent Auction and Dinner

Social hour begins at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m. The St. Anthony's Society has donated and will prepare the food for the main menu, consisting of baked ziti, hot porchetta, roast beef sandwiches, green beans and salad. Appetizers and desserts will also be served. Cash bar.



Entertainment will be provided by pianists Celeste Epstein and Mary June Peterson, flautist Barbara Krahn, alto Paula Gonzalez, guitarist and vocalist Pete Snow and mezzo soprano Andrea Arena.

Tickets are \$25. A limited number of tickets will be available before the event. No ticket sales at the door. To purchase tickets, call the parish office at 328-2335 and leave your name and phone number. You will be contacted by a member of our parish music ministry.

To donate items or services for the auction, contact Mike McHugh at 584-5922. All proceeds go toward the restoration of our historical Hook & Hastings pipe organ.

# New Castle – The First Capital City! The most picturesque and historic waterfront community on the East Coast!

## Save on City taxes... Apply now for exemptions

Applications are now being accepted for the Over 65 or Disability property tax exemption. To make an appointment, at the convenience of the taxpayer, call Marian C. Delaney at 322-9811.

The maximum yearly income requirements are \$15,000 for a single person and \$30,000 for a married couple. Social Security income is not counted toward the minimum. The last day to apply is June 17th.

#### Simple household mix may deter wild animals

Try this household recipe to deter wild animals wherever they are a nuisance:

- 8 ounces caster oil:
- 8 ounces liquid dish detergent;
- 1 gallon water.

Mix all ingredients; pour into household spray bottle or clean

The next regular City Council meeting is 7 p.m., Tues., March 12 at Town Hall garden sprayer. Spray on vegetation and on siding, decks, foundations, walls, doors, garbage cans, etc.

This spray will deter most wild animals, and dogs and cats in most cases, from any areas where used. Plants will not be harmed, animals that do ingest the mixture may experience some digestive discomfort or diarrhea, which is not typically life threatening.

Food plants and/or fruits should be washed thoroughly if spray has been used within the previous week. Some discoloration of painted surfaces may occur (test first). This spray may also be used where animals are found to be nesting/denning in and around buildings, on undesired trails to/from water or other sources of food.



Commercial products are available to deter wildlife and most are effective. Online go to: www.critter-repellent.com/skunk/skunk-repellant.php.

Human hair (from barber or beauty parlor) spread around the garden and outside the home can also keep wildlife away.

## Try this little-known musical suggestion!

If a skunk is living under the porch or in a garage you can turn on a radio, face it down and play bass music. Many skunks do not like the loud music. Do this at dusk.

Editor's note: The preceding information was copied from the Web site: www.skunkhaven.net.

### **Code Enforcement Corner**

Code Enforcement helps maintain and improve the quality of life of New Castle City residents by administering an unbiased enforcement program to correct violations of City zoning, property maintenance and building codes. Complaint forms are available at the City offices or on the City Web site at: NewCastleCity.Delaware.gov. To reach the Code Enforcement Officer, call 323-6081.

Complaints are handled on a confidential basis. If feedback and/or updates are requested, however, a name, address and phone number need to be provided with the complaint.

#### This month's general reminders and common code violations

- 1. Recycle containers are for "recycle items" only. Yard waste containers are for "yard waste" only. Trash/garbage will not be collected from "recycle" or "yard waste" containers. Violations are subject to Code Enforcement.
- 2. Garbage must be securely contained in trash/garbage containers, <u>with lids</u>, not to exceed 35 gallons or 50 pounds. The limit is four containers per residence, per week.
- 3. Scattered trash/garbage is the responsibility of the property owner and is subject to Code Enforcement.
- 4. Extra/excess trash/garbage/junk/large items must have prior arrangements made for pickup with the Public Services Department at 322-9813 or 322-9808, *before items are placed out for pickup*. Special pickup is normally only made on the regular trash pickup day.
- 5. Public Works personnel will place "green sticker" placards on any excess/special trash that is out for pickup which has not had prior arrangements made. Items must be removed immediately or the property owner is subject to Code Enforcement.
- 6. Trash/garbage/recycle/yard waste containers must be removed from the pickup area by the end of the pickup day. Containers cannot be stored in/on the front of the property, unless a permit to do so is approved by the City Administration. All others must be stored at least *five feet* behind the front plane of the house, unless they are behind a solid fence high enough so the containers are not visible. Violations are subject to enforcement.